Euro-III emission norms for vehicles

824. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision for vehicles to conform to Euro-III emission norms with effect from 1st April, 2005;

(b) if so, the details of the decision taken by Government and the state where these new emission norms would be enforced;

(c) whether Government have also taken a decision to phase out vehicles more than 20 years old; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and b) *Vide* Gazette Notification No. G.S.R. 686(E) dated 20th October, 2004, Bharat Stage-III emission norms (akin to Euro-III norms) are being introduced in the National Capital Region and the cities of Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad including Secundrabad, Ahmedabad, Pune, Surat, Kanpur and Agra in respect of four wheeled vehicles manufactured on and from 1st April, 2005, except for four wheeled transport vehicles plying on Inter-State Permits or National Permits or All India Tourist Permits within the jurisdiction fo these cities.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

National Highways passing through NE Region

825. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the conditions of National Highways passing through North-Eastern Region is very deplorable;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) National Highways in the North Eastern Region are generally kept in a traffic-worthy condition within the available resources. However, the stretches, which are in distressed condition, are being identified and improved in a phased manner.

(c) This Ministry has framed a project for accelerated improvement of National Highways in the North Eastern Region, which is under proposal stage.

Allocation for maintenance of roads

826. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of allocation made by Government for maintenance of roads and National Highways during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of works relating to maintenance of roads and National Highways in the various States spending due to unavailability of funds; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) State-wise details of allocation of funds for maintenance of National Highways during the last three years is enclosed as Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) All the National Highways are maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available resources.